

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00

PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /117 W

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R 131852 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9738

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO CNO WASHDC

NAVAIRSYSCOM WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

MAAG BONN

MAAG NETHERLANDS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1854

NOFORN

SECSTATE FOR EUR/ RPM; SECDEF FOR OASD(I& L); CNO FOR OP-098,
OP-05, OP-506 D; NAVAIRSYSCO FOR PMA 240

REF: (A) NATO DOCUMENT CD(73) A/4 OF MARCH 12, 1973 (NOTAL)

(B) STATE 050292 (192215 Z MAR 73) (NOTAL)

(C) USNATO 1620 (311120 Z MAR 73) (NOTAL)

(D) USNATO 1744 (062010 Z APR 73) (NOTAL)

1. THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE NMPASC WAS HELD AT NATO HEADQUARTERS, BRUSSELS, ON APRIL 12, 1973. THE FOLLOWING NATIONS WERE REPRESENTED: FRANCE, GERMANY, NETHERLANDS, ITALY, BELGIUM, AND THE UNITED STATES. THE AGENDA OF REF (A) WAS FOLLOWED.

2. ITEMS OF US INTEREST

(A) DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE TWO POINTS OF THE LETTER FROM THE US MEMBER OF THE NMPASC TO THE CHAIRMAN, NMPASC (REFLECTING CONFIDENTIAL

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GUIDANCE OF REF (B) AND QUOTED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF REF (C)) WERE DISCUSSED.

(1) UNIVAC 1616 COMPUTER: THE FRENCH MEMBER (VADM BLOCH) CONTENTS THAT THE US OFFER ADDS NOTHING TO THE INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE TO NMPA OFFICIALS DURING A TOUR OF US IN EARLY 1971, OBLIQUELY DISCOUNTING ANY IDEA THAT LICENSING FOR MANUFACTURE OF THE COMPUTER IN GERMANY WOULD COME TO PASS. IN SPITE OF THE DISCOURAGING COMMENTS BY THE FRENCH, THE GERMAN, AND TO A CERTAIN DEGREE THE DUTCH, MEMBERS EXPRESSED SOME SATISFACTION AT THE THRUST OF THE LETTER. THE GERMANS WOULD BE MUCHHAPPIER, HOWEVER, WITH A MORE POSITIVE REPLY. BY THE END OF THE DISCUSSION, THE FRENCH MEMBER SEEMED A BIT MORE RECEPTIVE TO THE IDEA THAT THE LETTER REPRESENTED A FAVORABLE RESPONSE ON THE PART OF THE US RELATIVE TO LICENSING OF THE COMPUTER FOR MANUFACTURE IN EUROPE.

(2) US PARTICIPATION IN THE MODERNIZATION SUB- COMMITTEE (MSC): FOLLOWING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THE LETTER, INDICATING THAT US PARTICIPATION IN THE MSC COULD BE ONLY ON A CASE- BY- CASE BASIS, WAS NOT ONLY PREMATURE, BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN SENT WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MSC (BLOCH). AS THE MATTER NOW STANDS, THE SITUATION WILL BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT MSC MEETING (MAY 9, 1973) AND REPORTED ON AT THE NEXT NMPASC MEETING, MAY 10, 1973. SINCE US PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE AT US OPTION, US MEMBER CONTINUES TO EXPRESS QUOTE INTEREST UNQUOTE IN PARTICIPATION IN LIEU OF QUOTE REQUESTING PERMISSION UNQUOTE TO DO SO. FRENCH MEMBER CONSISTENTLY AVOIDS THE DISTINCTION. IN ADDITION, EXPECT FRENCH MEMBER WILL INSIST THAT US PROVE QUOTE TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE UNQUOTE IF AND WHEN US PARTICIPATION IN MSC BECOMES A FACT. THIS PARAGRAPH CONSTITUTES FOLLOW- UP RESPONSE REQUESTED IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF REF (B).

(B) THE NEGATIVE RESPONSE FROM THE CANADIAN MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE TO THE CHAIRMAN, NMPASC RELATIVE TO NMPASC CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROGRAM TO REPLACE THE CANADIAN ARGUS MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT WAS DISCUSSED. REF (D) IS PERTINENT.

(1) THE CANADIAN RESPONSE HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE SYG (LUNS) BY THE BELGIAN PERMREP (DE STAERCKE). MISSION CONFIDENTIAL

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INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE FORWARDING LETTER IS QUOTE:

BRUSSELS, 2 APRIL 1973

MR. J. M. A. H. LUNS
SECRETARY GENERAL
NATO

MY DEAR SECRETARY GENERAL:

YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO INFORM ME OF THE INTEREST YOU TOOK
IN THE APPROACH I WAS MAKING TO MY CANADIAN COLLEAGUE ON BEHALF
OF THE COUNTRIES ASSOCIATED IN THE ATLANTIC PROGRAM, IN ORDER
THAT THIS AIRCRAFT COULD ENTER THE COMPETITION OPENED FOR FINDING
A SUCCESSOR TO THE MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT NOW USED BY THE
CANADIAN ARMED FORCES.

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED AN ANSWER FROM THE CANADIAN DEFENSE
MINISTER AND AM SENDING YOU A COPY OF IT.

I HAVE ALSO INFORMED THOSE OF MY COLLEAGUES WHOSE COUNTRIES
ARE ASSOCIATED IN THE ATLANTIC PROGRAM. VERY TRULY YOURS,
A. DE STAERCKE UNQUOTE.

(2) THE FRENCH MEMBER ASSERTED THAT THE ONLY WORTHWHILE PART
OF THE CANADIAN LETTER WAS THE PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH IN WHICH
THE CANADIANS STATE THAT THE ATLANTIC AIRCRAFT COULD NOT MEET
THE CANADIAN NEEDS. FOLLOWING ON, HE ASSERTS THAT, WITH SLIGHT
MODIFICATIONS PERHAPS THE ATLANTIC II COULD MEET THE CANADIAN
NEEDS, BUT WITHOUT COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE BY THE NMPASC OF JUST
WHAT THOSE NEEDS ARE, THE POTENTIAL OF THE ATLANTIC II TO MEET
THESE NEEDS CANNOT BE EVALUATED. PERHAPS A FOLLOW- UP LETTER
TO THE CANADIAN MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE FROM THE CHAIRMAN,
NMPASC ALONG THESE LINES WILL BE FORTHCOMING. AT THIS POINT,
THE MEETING ADJOURNED AND THE MATTER RESTS.
MCAULIFFE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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